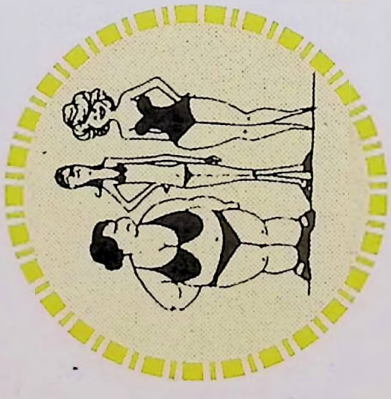
Pat's Patterns

Knits that fit everybody, regardless of the shape you are in!

September 1990



CONTENTS

Articles That Teach

Knitting Calculator Use, Part III	Wetzel	17
The Machine Knitter's Dictionary	Wetzel	8
Seminar Demonstrators	Wetzel	10

Designs

Imperial Triangle	Miller	11

Novelties

The 14 Minute Sweater (Ornament)	Knittens	11
Frilly Dresser Scarf	Wetzel	15

Women

Cool, Quick, & Easy Top	Blystone	6
Plated Tuck Shell	Stone	4
Pleated Skirt	Hale	7
Schmetterling Pullover	Wetzel	13
Tuck Boatneck Sweater	Croisant	3

A Chat with Pat

Before I say anything else, I want to thank each of you who wished Carl and me luck with our moving. Your good wishes are appreciated. If each of you would like to do another favor for us, will you please say a prayer or two that our former home gets sold quite soon? We are indepted to you for your thoughtfulness.

At this writing we are living at the new address (although sleeping in guest beds), but the printing equipment is still at the former address. We seem to be spending a large amount of time commuting between the two houses and looking through boxes in search of needed articles. By this time next month I expect to have all of my storage space organized and I even expect by then to **know where things are**!

Please continue to be patient with us during this time of upheaval, as it may well be into the month of October before we will be able to meet all our self-imposed deadlines in a timely fashion. Besides our move, at the same time Carl's mother was moved to a nursing home and my mother was moved to a location better for her needs!

Anyone who has moved will understand some of what we are going through. Our cat, Nosey, hid in a corner and in her litter box for a full day after being moved, but now she is completely at home. From trying to do too many things at once, Carl had a headache yesterday - what a time we had trying to locate the aspirin! [The storage space in this house is totally different from what we have in the other one.]

In the tiny room I am using as an office there is a nice set of built-in cupboards (a feature that was missing in my former office space). But neither of the wall outlets is grounded! As a result, in order to plug in my computer and printers I am temporarily working from a heavy duty extension cord which is plugged into an outlet in the adjacent powder/laundry room.

Each day has a surprise for us - sometimes favorable, but other times it is more of a shock. We are getting a new dishwasher tomorrow because the one that was here was in really bad condition!

One of the first things we moved were Carl's patio tomato plants. We have enjoyed many fruits from them, and shared with others. but last week Carl noticed that something was eating the foliage **and** fruits. After careful searching he found three huge, ugly tomato worms. I said they were so big that if the dog catcher saw them we would have to buy them licenses and keep them on leashes! Seriously, one was about 5" long and the thickness of a large thumb. Ugh!

My knitting room is beckoning. All of the machines are in their places and the yarn is on the yarn trees. As soon as I can quit painting, laying carpeting, dusting, scrubbing, packing, unpacking, and aching, I'll be able to reacquaint myself with knitting.

By the time you get this the kids will be in school and vacations will be finished. Won't it be great to get back into the rut of normalcy?

Pat

Information

Pat's Patterns is published monthly by Wetzel Enterprises, Box 158, Clymer, PA 15728. Yearly subscription rates are $18 in the USA and $25 for all other countries. Rate based on $1.50 per copy and subject to change without notice. Back issues are not available.

Copies are sent via third class mail and as such the post office will not forward them to your new address. You must make your address change directly with us. For $2 each we can usually replace the most recent issue or two.

We require original material from each writer and the responsibility for copyright infringements lies with the individual whose byline is used with the questionable material.

All ads must be paid for in advance. Per issue rates: classifieds 10 cents per word, 1/8 page $10; 1/4 page $25; 1/2 page $60; 1/1 page $130. Ads for the Nov. issue must be in our hands by October 1. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any ad that doesn't conform to our standards.

TUCK BOATNECK SWEATER

Simply Stylish Knits from Nestor Creek

Mary Ann Croisant

Please see the Nestor Creek ads elsewhere in this magazine.

Yarn: Nomis 2/15
Gauge: 7 stitches, 20 rows = 1" in tuck pattern
Tensions: 3/3 for ribs; 6 for tuck
Machine used: Brother 860
Tuck card: #3 from the Brother basic set
Garment size: Medium (38" - 40") - garment finishes to about 42" at the bustline

This is my "I did it this afternoon" sweater. If you begin right after lunch, you will be sewing it up while watching TV in the evening. If you haven't tried doing tuck stitch before, this is a great first project. And if this isn't your size, the saimple shape lends itself to recharting (it's basically four rectangles!).

BACK: Cast on 150 stitches for 1:1 rib and knit 40 rows at tension 3/3. Transfer all ribber stitches to the main bed.

RC000. Change to tension 6 and begin tuck knitting at tension 6. At RC 220 hang a marker for the underarm then continue to knit to RC 320.

At RC 320 transfer every- other stitch to the ribber. Still at tension 6 rib 26 rows. Bind off loosely.

FRONT: Knit exactly the same as the back.

SLEEVES: Beginning at 0/0 needles, hang the front and back between 100 needles (55 each side of 0/0).

RC000. Knit 1 row plain knitting, then begin the tuck pattern. Continue in tuck to RC 300. Scrap off.

SLEEVE RIBBING: Cast on 70 stitches for 1:1 ribbing. Tension 3/3. RC000. Knit 40 rows. Hang the sleeve stitches from scrap, doubling as necessary, and bind off together.

FINISHING: Sew the shoulder seams, leaving about 8-1/2" opening for the neck. turn under the ribbing at the neck and slip stitch in place. Sew the underarm and body seams, steam lightly, and wear the next morning!

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PLATED TUCK SHELL

Catherine Stone

Yarn: 14/2 cotton - in the body use 1 strand white and 1 strand navy; for the ribbing use 2 strands of navy - 4 to 6 oz. of each color will make any size

Gauge: 7 stitches, 20 rows = 1" in the plated tuck pattern

Tension: 0/0 for the ribs; 6 for the tuck pattern

Finished measure at the bust: 36, 38 (40, 42) 44, 46 [48, 50] 52, 54"

Plated tuck stitch pattern card: See the card at the right and the photocopy of the stitch below

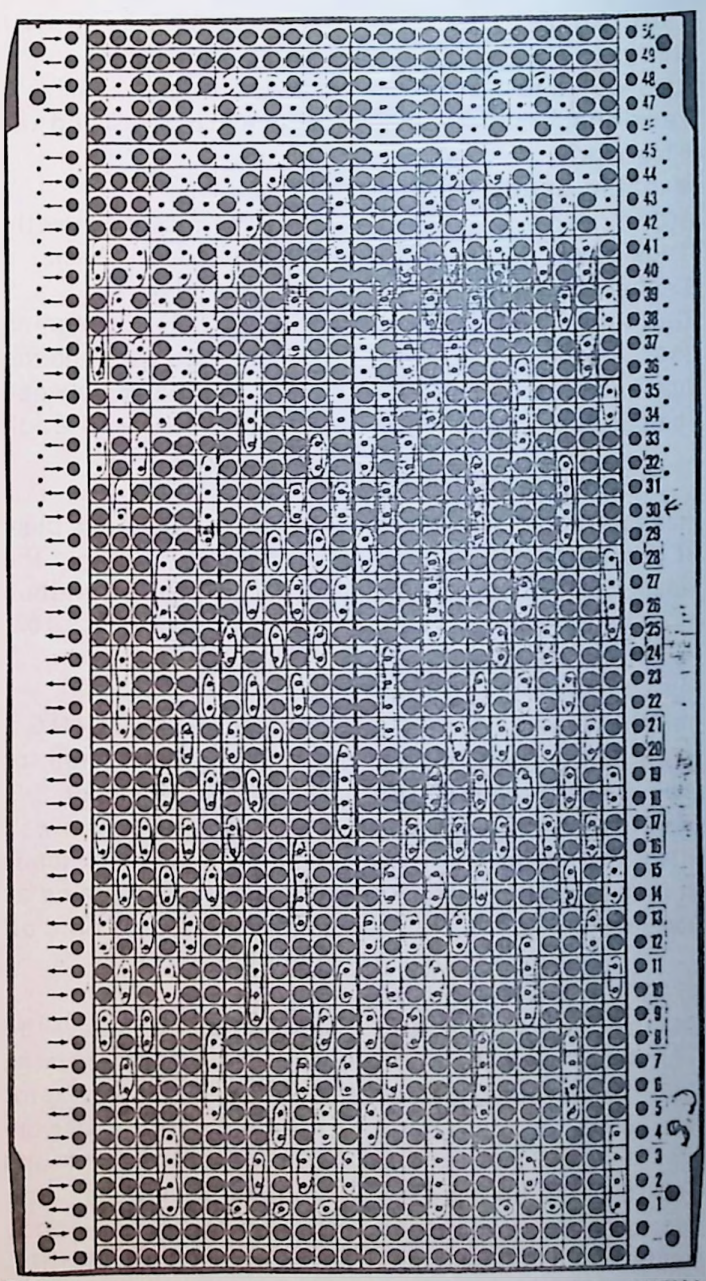
Notes: When doing the plating, place white in the plating feeder and navy in the main feeder. I used knit-in elastic on the cast on rows of the ribbing. The back is knitted straight across at the neck edge.

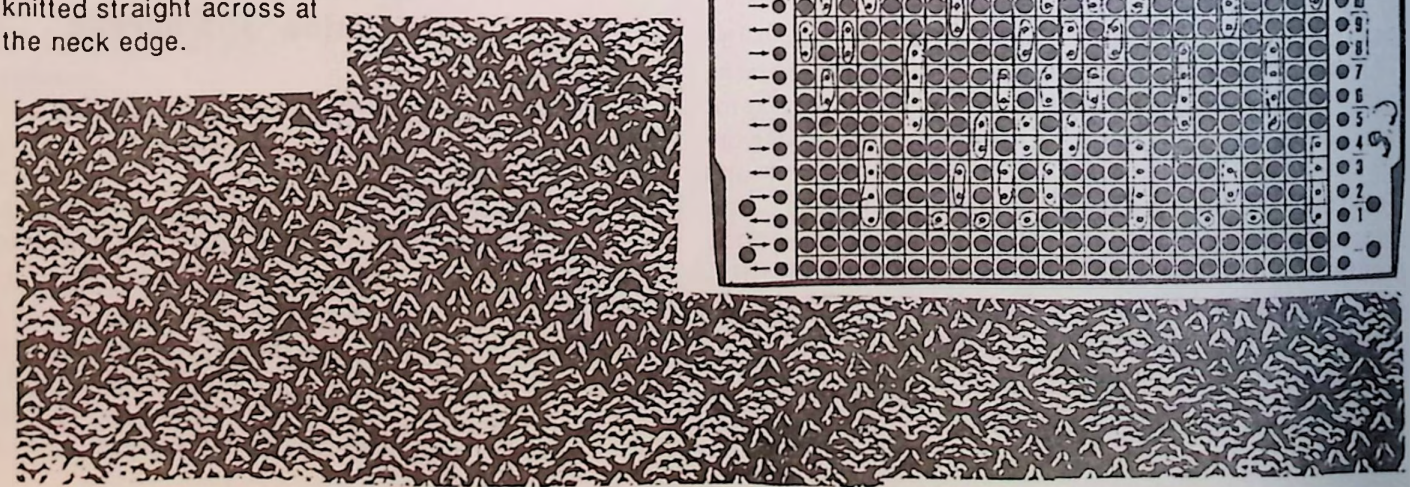
Boat neck rib (omit elastic): after the ribbing mark the neck edge stitches (neck opening is 50 stitches in the center). Bind off all neck stitches. Join shoulders.

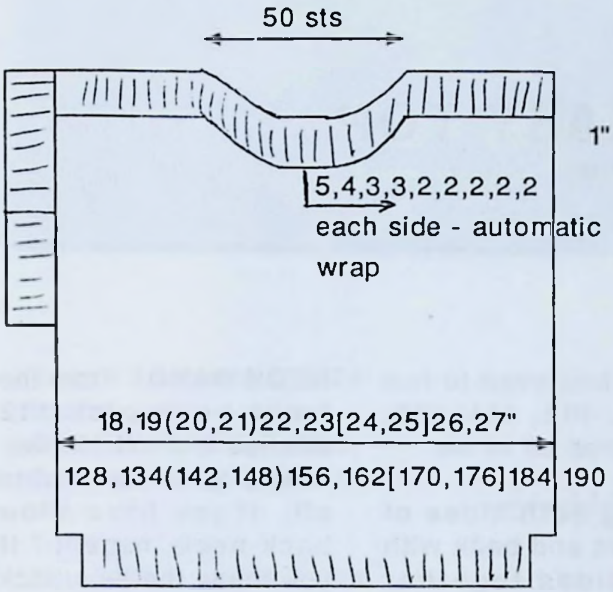
Armbands: 1/1 rib cast on (omit elastic) 126 (134)140[148]154 sts. Use 2 strands of navy and tension 1/1 to knit 24 rows.

SC 1 row around neck edge if desired.

Editor's note: Cathy does as many of us do - works from a diagram. Her additional knitting notes are below, but turn the page for the main part of the knitting. You should be able to figure out how to knit this garment by reading the diagram.







2" rib	24 rs T1/1 1:1 rib
1" short rs	18 rs (knit 1 row w 2 strands navy in stock after SR)
6"	120 rs
(6.5)"	(130) rs
7"	140 rs
[7.5]"	[150] rs
8"	160 rs
11.5"	230 rs
(11)"	(220) rs
11.5"	230 rs
[12]"	[240 rs]
11.5"	230 rs
2.5" rib	34 rs T 0/0 1:1 rib

Note: neck shaping is the same for all sizes

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COOL, QUICK, & EASY TOP

Lois Blystone

Yarn: 2 strands of 14/2 cotton or other yarn to get the gauge
Gauge: 8.5 sts, 12.75 rows = 1"
Tension: 6
Machine: any standard gauge, 4.5 mm pitch, 200 needle machine can be used
Actual garment size at the bust: 32", 34", 36", 38", 40", 42", 44"

FRONT: Cast on 136, 144, 152, 160, 170, 178, 186 stitches in 1:1 rib and knit 24 rows using tension 1. If you don't have a ribber, knit 40 rows of mock rib at tension 2 and hang a hem.

RC000. Knit to the desired underarm length you need, including the ribbing:

12" - 132 rs 15" - 170 rs
13" - 144 rs 16" - 184 rs
14" - 158 rs 17" - 196 rs

ARM SHAPING: RC000. for a dropped shoulder put marker strings on the outside edges and knit even to rc 24, 30, 38, 44, 50, 56, 64.

Arm shaping for T-top: E-wrap cast on additional stitches for the length of sleeve you want on the right side, knit one row and then cast on the same amount on the left. About 18 to 24 stitches make a nice length sleeve. The larger sizes will not have that many empty needles, but you can have a small cap sleeve.

After the additional stitches have been cast on, knit even to row 24, 30, 38, 44, 50, 56, 64.

NECK SHAPING: The neck shaping is the same for all sizes. Bind off the center 28 stitches and divide the work by putting the half of the needles opposite the carriage in hold and work on the other half. RC000. Knit, decreasing 1 stitch at the neck edge every 3 rows 20 trimes. Knit even then to row 64. Scrap off the shoulder stitches and repeat for the other side.

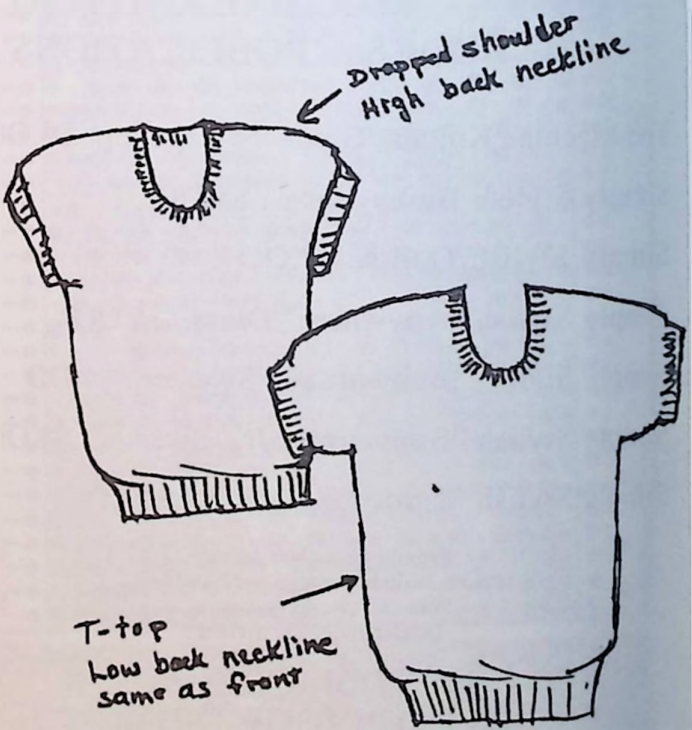
BACK: If you like the neckline of the front, knit the back the same. If you want a high back neck, eliminate the shaping. After the marker strings of the additional stitches are added, knit even to row 88, 94, 102, 114, 120, 128. Scrap off all sts.

Rehang both sides of the front and back with right sides together and bind off all stitches

SLEEVE BANDS: Same for drop shoulder and T-top style. Pick up 118, 126, 136, 144, 152, 160, 170 stitches and knit 16 rows at tension 4. Hang a hem and bind off. Repeat for the other sleeve.

NECK BAND: From the front neck pick 112 stitches and knit 16 rows. Hang a hem and bind off. If you have a low back neck, repeat. If you made the high back neck, pick up 68 stitches and knit 16 rows.

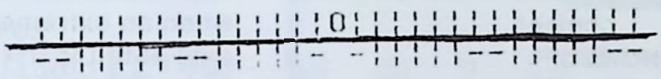
FINISHING: Seam the bands and the underarms.



PLEATED SKIRT

Cathy Hale

Yarn: 2 strands of 2/24 in olive green
Gauge: approximately 8 stitches, 11 rows = 1" in rib
Tension: 4/4
Machine: any 4.5 mm with ribber
Size: two panels fit up to about 37" hips; 3 panels will fit just about anyone!



> mainbed needles
> ribber needles

¦= needle in work
-= needle out of work

PANEL

Make two or three as needed.

H5 cast on in full needle rib 90-0-90. After the circular rows change to P5 and transfer stitches to the main bed as shown in the needle set-up given at the top.

Change back to H5.

RC000. Knit in rib to RC 250.

Change to P5 again and this time transfer all the ribber stitches to the main bed.

WAISTBAND

Tension 4 with the main carriage knit 10 rows; tension 9 knit 1 row; tension 4 knit 10 more rows. Bind off.

FINISHING

Seam side seams. turn the stockinet band under and whip stitch in place, leaving room to place 1/2" elastic thru the casing. Cut the elastic to the waist measurement plus 1" and slip through the casing, securing it with the sewing machine.

Note: This skirt can also be made for the longer look by just adding 11 rows for every inch you want to increase the length. Skirt made as is will produce approximately a 23" long skirt.

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THE MACHINE KNITTER'S DICTIONARY

Patricia J. Wetzel

Cord - Before you were born you were nourished through an umbilical cord. An apple without its center has been cored. A group of musical notes that sounds good when played together is most likely a chord. In cool weather you might burn a cord of wood to warm your house, but you would have to knit a lot of cords then sew them together in order to create a garment that would keep you warm. A knitted cord, you see, is just a fancy name for a string!

To knit a cord one can cast on 3, 4, 5, or 6 stitches (or more) and knit, knit, knit until the string is as long as needed. This cord just naturally rolls in on itself. But if you want to knit a tube cord, the machine must be set so that it will not knit in one of the directions. Then, after casting on 3 or 4 stitches, push the carriage back and forth twice as many passes as before and you will get a cord that is a roll.

If you want a cord (tube) that has a greater diameter than 3 or 4 stitches, put the ribber into use and knit a tube of the size of your choice!

Crew Neck - This is a neckline that is either rounded or squarish, that sits low enough on one's neck so that one's shirt collar is visible above the edge of the sweater's neckline. It is my guess that it is called a "crew" neckline because of its popularity with some specific "crew" of men - perhaps a soccer team, perhaps a ship's workers

Cuff - The lower portion of a pant leg or sleeve, worn straight or turned back on itself. Most often the cuff of a sweater sleeve is knitted in a rib stitch so as to give a close fit. Cuffs can be knitted in the same stitch as the body of the garment, though, and either turned to the outside or inside. In this case the cuff would not have the same close fit as when it is ribbed.

Cut and Sew - This technique of cutting out the neckline of a garment, rather than shaping it full fashioned is used mainly when an extremely intricate stitch is used. The primary benefit of choosing this type of neckline finishing is that less concentration is needed when knitting. Some folks have grown to like the appearance of this type of neckline finish so much that they use it even when full fashioned shaping would pose no problem.

To do a cut and sew neckline, one knits the front (and back) of the sweater without any neckline shaping. Then a template is placed in the neckline area and the neckline shape is marked. The fabric is then sewn along the cutting line and the excess trimmed away - then the band is added.

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Patricia J. Wetzel

Here is a list of people who are willing to discuss terms for teaching at your seminar or workshop. Seminar sponsors must make their own contacts. If you are a talented teacher and want your name and information to appear on the next listing, be sure to send it to me as soon as possible.

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The 14 Minute Sweater

(a cute Christmas ornament)

Knittens

Editor: Since Labor Day is here and gone and the children are in school, in a surprisingly short amount of time we will all be thinking about Christmas! Why not begin now to knit a "bunch" of Marian Reynolds' sweater ornaments? You will want to use one as a trim on each special gift and you may want to decorate your tree entirely in these little sweaters this year.

Yarn: Trenzado or 3 strands of 2/24 or any other similar weight yarn

Tension 3/3 cast on 12 stitches in 1:1 rib.

RC000. Rib to RC 4. Transfer all ribber stitches to the main bed.

Tension 7 continue to RC 14.

Begin the sleeves: E-wrap cast on 8 stitches now and on the next row. You now have 30 stitches. Continue on these to RC 24.

Form the neckline: With a separate piece of main color yarn bind off the center 10 stitches, then immediately e-wrap cast on over these same empty 10 needles with the same length of yarn.

Continue knitting on all 30 needles to RC 32.

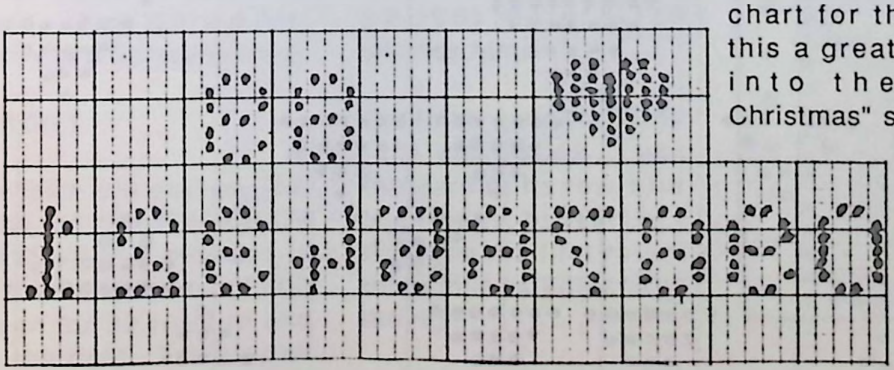
Bind off the sleeve stitches: At this side bind off 8 sleeve stitches. Knit one row and bind off 8 sleeve stitches at this side.

Continue to RC 44.

Transfer every-other stitch to the ribber and at tension 3/3 knit 4 rows. Tension 8/8 knit 1 row. Transfer all ribber stitches to the main bed and then cast off.

Finishing: Sew the side seams. Tie a 4" long piece of 1/4" wide ribbon into a bow and tack at one side of the neckline. Add a glitzy yarn to serve as a hanger and it's done.

Note: Now that you have made one of these sweaters you may wish to do another, maybe placing the year or a heart on the front. Below you will find a chart for these. Isn't this a great way to get into the "Merry Christmas" spirit?



Imperial Triangle

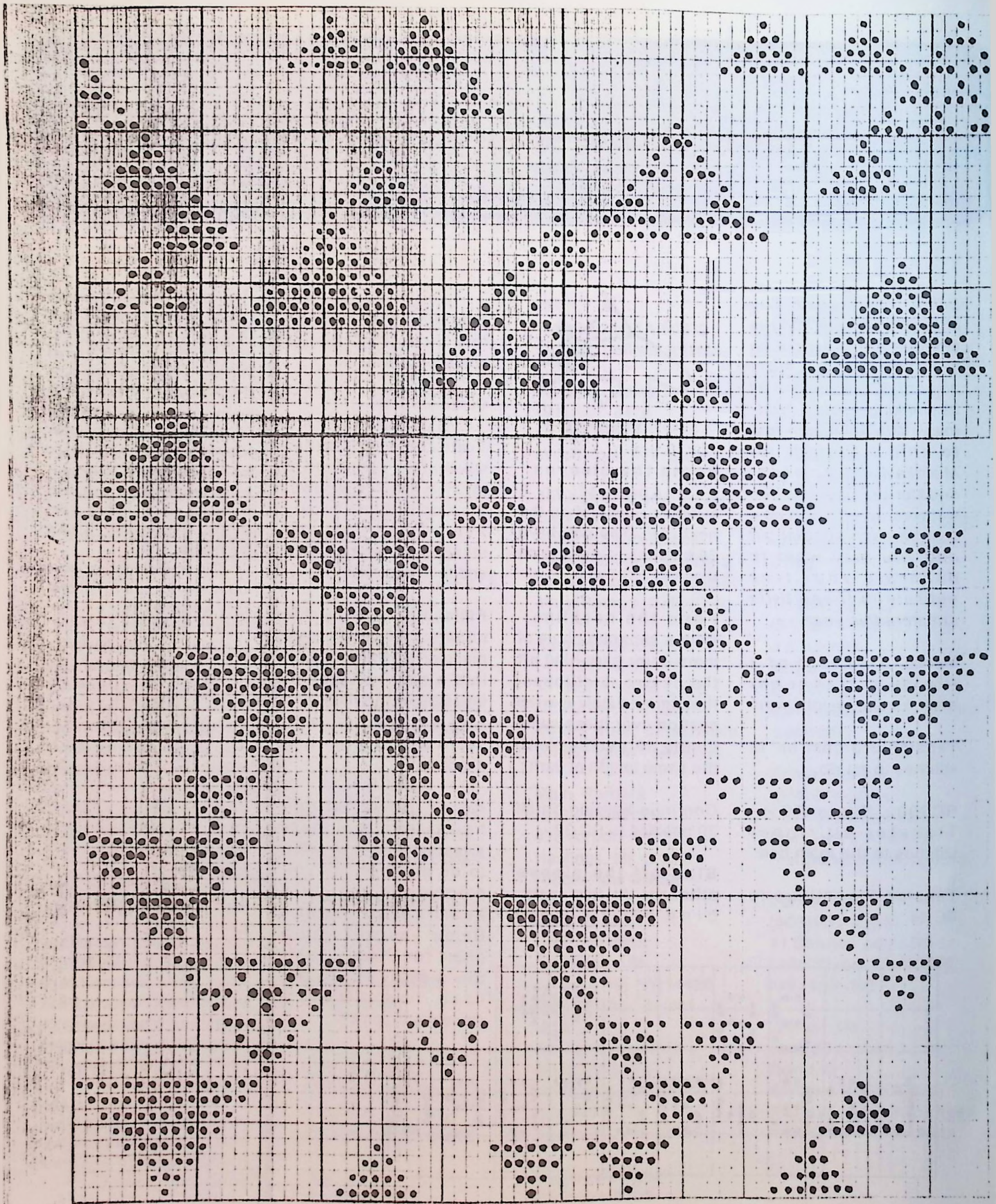
Diane Miller

I was looking through fabric pictures and I saw this Schumacher print designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. I live close to Rochester, N.Y., which is lucky enough to have one of his famous prairie style houses well maintained. In fact it was featured on our 6 o'clock news as architect students were visiting from all over the country to view the house.

The coincidences were too many for me to ignore, so I adapted the printed fabric to a knit- ting pattern. This design is 75 stitches wide and 78 rows long, so I would use the electronic machine to knit the entire design. That does not stop the owners of punchcards from taking an element from the overall design and punching a card. I drew a square around several that would work well.

The background was dark and the triangles were lightly colored on the fabric, but you have the advantage of doing your own thing! Also, electronic owners should copy the design and then use your reverse button to have the triangles going in the same direction as printed on the fabric.

Since this pattern has large floats it would work best in double bed knitting. It would make up as a great area rug or jacket.



Schmetterling Pullover

Patricia J. Wetzel

Yarn: one strand of a soft fingering yarn or 2 ends of 2/24 - for the design use Amber's Fairisle or any other compatible multi- color yarn
Gauge: 7.5 stitches and 11 rows = 1"
Machine: this was knitted on a Brother 890, but any 24 stitch punch-card or electronic machine can be used
Photograph: cover
Finished garment at bustline: 34,36(38,40) 42,44[46,48]50,52"
Butterfly design: at the right

Note: I am a devotee of butterflies and you will find butterfy pictures, hangings, and jewelry with this theme in my house and on my person. While in Germany last fall I found a stunning wristwatch with butterflies on its face. Over there a butterfly is a Schmetterling.

FRONT

Tension 0/0 cast on 128, 136(144,150)158,166[174 182]188,196 stitches in 1:1 rib. Tension 1/1 knit even for 32 rows to end at the right. Transfer all ribber stitches to the main bed.

RC000. Tension 6 knit even to RC 5. Insert the card and lock it at card row 27 (25 for Studio card/machine) for the first row of the small butterflies design. Program that row as you knit to the right. Now continue in the fairisle design to RC 31. Break the fairisle yarn and continue in stockinet to RC 131.

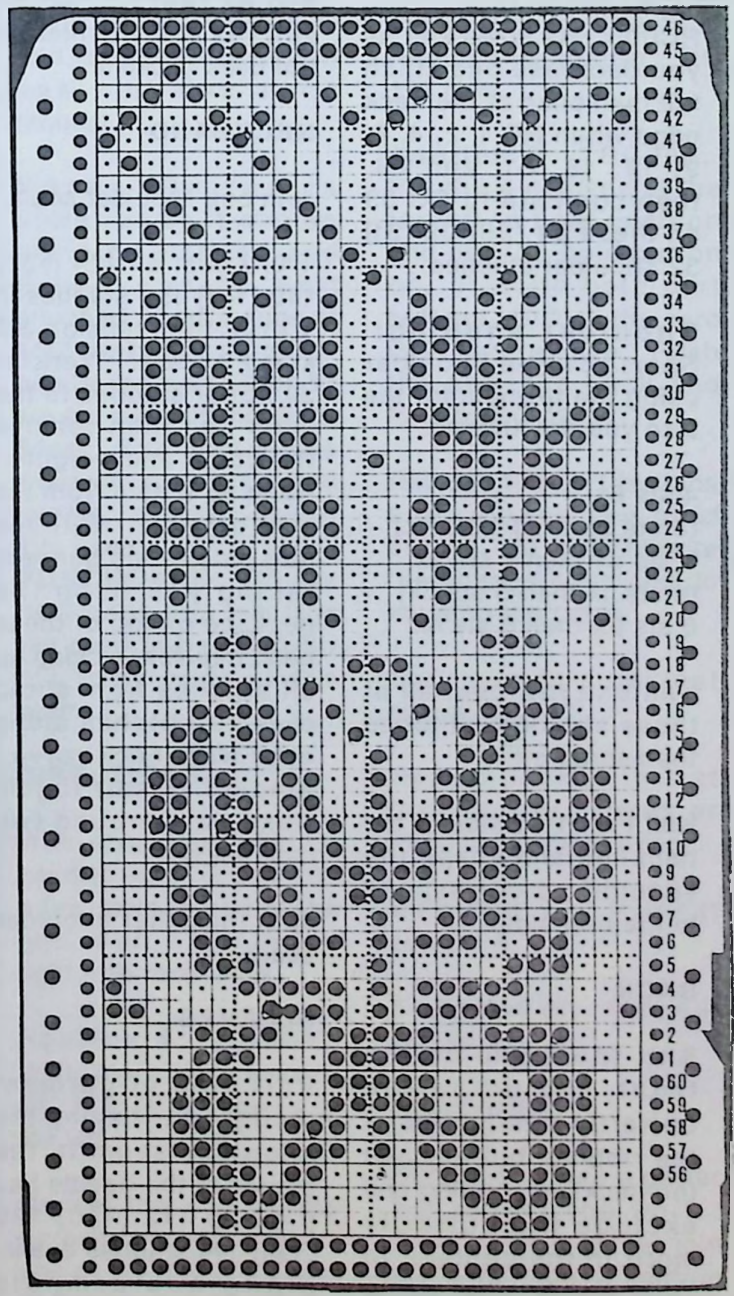
Armholes: The COL, so at the right take 7,7(7,8) 8,8[8,8]8,8 stitches off on a holder. Knit one row and take the same number of stitches off at the left side.

RC000. Knit as you decrease **two(2)** stitches each side of EOR a total of 6,7(7,9)9, 11[11,13]13,13 times.

90 (98)106[114]120 stitches remain.

Continue even to RC 19 (25) 29 [35] 41. Lock the card at its row 1 for the large butterfly. Program the first row of this motif as you knit to the right.

Knit one butterfly motif,



with the last row of it being done at RC 44 (50) 54 [60] 66. Continue even in stockinet to RC 50 (56) 60 [66] 72.

Shape front neckline: Take the center 24 (28) 32 [34] 38 stitches off on a yarn holder and divide the work.

RC000. All sizes knit as you decrease one stitch full fashioned at the neck edge when RC 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 16, 21, and 26, then continue to RC 33 on these 24 (26) 28 [31] 32 shoulder stitches.

Shoulder shaping: Short row the shoulder using the formula for the size you are knitting:

4 sts 6x
(5 sts 2x then 4 sts 4x)
5 sts 4x then 4 sts 2x
[6 sts 1x then 5 sts 5x]
6 sts 2x then 5 sts 4x.

Knit one row over all of these shoulder stitches then scrap off.

Knit the other side of the neckline and shape the shoulder to correspond to the first side.

BACK

Knit the same as the front, including the butterfly design above the ribbing, but exclude the neckline shaping and exclude the butterfly motif in the center. In other words, after doing all of the armhole shaping continue even on the remaining 90 (98) 106 [114] 120 stitches to RC 84 (90) 94 [100] 106. Shape both shoulders simulatneously, using the formula given for one front shoulder. End by scrapping off 24 (26) 28 [31] 32 stitches at each side for the shoulders and 42 (46) 50 [52] 56 stitches in the center for the back neckline.

NECKBAND

Join one shoulder seam.

T 0/0 cast on 124 (132) 140 [144] 152 stitches in 1:1 rib, then tension 3/3 knit 28 rows. Transfer all ribber stitches to the main bed then remove the comb and weights. Hang up a hem from the cast on edge. With the purl side of the garment facing you hang the neckline on top of these band needles, picking up all stitches from scrap plus 29 stitches along each front neck curve. Bind off loosely to join (take yarn around two gate pegs).

Join the other shoulder seam.

SLEEVES

Purl side of garment facing you, having the shoulder seam in the center of the needle bed pick up 112 (120) 128 [136] 144 stitches evenly along one armhole (include the scrapped off underarm stitches at each side).

Shape the sleeve cap: Put all needles at the left of the center 22 (30) 38 [46] 54 needles in hold and knit to the left then wrap the innermost hold position needle. Put all needles to the right of the center 22 (30) 38 [46] 54 needles in hold and knit to the right then wrap.

Now all sizes follow the same formula for returning needles to knitting position:

2 needles 13 times each side - then -

1 needle 12 times each side - then -

the remaining 7 needles 1 time each side.

All of the needles are in knitting position and the carriage is at the right.

RC000. Knit as you decrease 1 stitch full fashioned at each side of every 18th (13th) 10th [8th] 7th row to RC 186. Scrap off (or use a garter bar) then rehang onto 62 needles, putting double stitches on EON. Transfer EOS to the ribber. Tension 3/3 knnit 32 rows. Tension 8/8 knit 1 row. Transfer all stitches to the main bed and cast off.

Please turn the page for the diagram.

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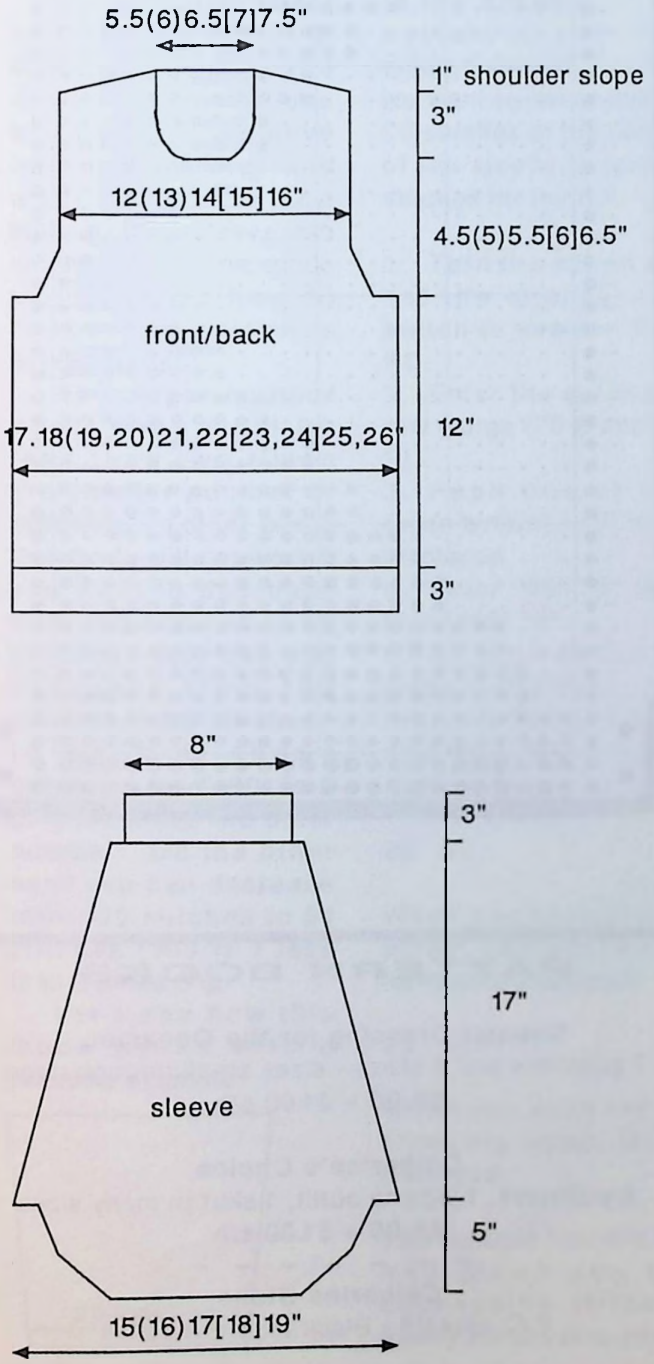
FRILLY DRESSER SCARVES

Patricia J. Wetzel



I am always grateful for your suggestions for patterns and articles, and this pattern is the basis of one such request.

Yarn: Cotton is preferred so it can be machine washed and dried easily and starched. 2 or 3 ends of 14/2 cotton and appropriate tension (7 or 9) are my recommendation.
Size: The size of the scarf will vary according to the yarn and stitch size used.
PUNCHCARD: On the next page you will find the card to be used for the frilly ends of the scarf.

DIRECTIONS

With scrap yarn cast on needles 16-0-12 and knit a few rows to end at the left. Knit 1 row to the right with ravel cord.

Section A: RC000. With main yarn knit to RC 151. Carriage is at the left.

Cancel the end needle selection (if you have one of the newer models of Brother machines).

Lock the card at the first row. Knit to the right as you program the first row of the design. RC 152 now.

Section B: *RC000. Put the 4 needles at the far left in hold position and put the hold button on. Push in both part buttons. Unlock the card so it can revolve. Push the carriage back and forth to RC 42.

Release the part buttons and release the hold button (do not release the change knob and do not stop the card).

Continue in stockinet now to RC44.*

Repeat from * to * at least 2 more times or more for a frillier effect.

Section C: Repeat section A.

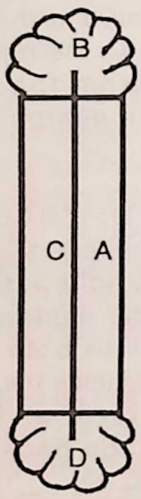
Section D: Repeat section B.

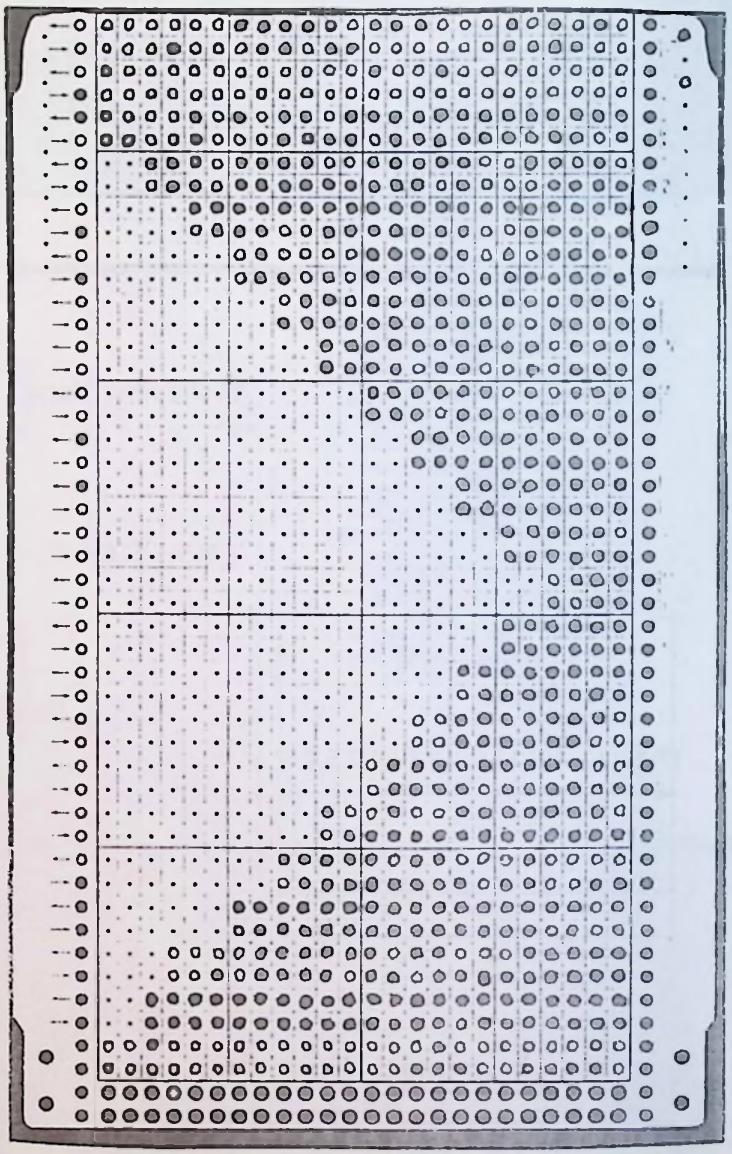
FINISHING

Scrap off or use a garter bar to turn the work. Right sides together join the beginning of section A to the end of section D.

Sew the long center seam.

Machine wash and dry. Starch and iron sections A and C flat, but be sure to iron the frill into sections B and D.





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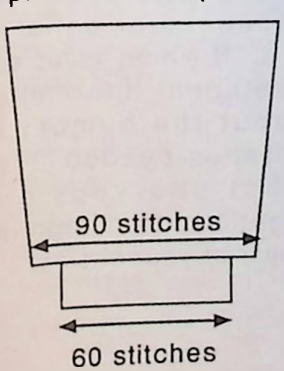
KNITTING CALCULATOR USE - PART III

Patricia J. Wetzel

For this installment we should briefly look at **Mode B**. This is the mode that we will use when we knit a sleeve into our sweater and want to gather the bottom of the sleeve into a tighter cuff. This mode will tell you how to "decrease stitches evenly across".

The larger number of stitches must be less than two times the smaller number of stitches. In other words this mode will not work if you want to decrease from 100 stitches to 50 stitches. Nor can you decrease from 100 stitches to 25 stitches. In each of these examples the "100" is 2 or more times the other number. On the other hand you can decrease from 100 stitches to 51 stitches (100 is 1 less than 2 times 51).

Let's see how this mode works with a practical example:



In the drawing at the bottom of the first column you will see that we want to decrease the 90 stitches at the bottom of the sleeve to just 60 stitches for the cuff.

1. Turn the KC on and set the change-over switch to position 2 for KC.
2. Enter the stitch and row gauge (75 S and 130 R).
3. Push one of the mode buttons until "B" is displayed.
4. Enter "90" "S" then enter "60" "S".
5. As soon as the up arrow is displayed, push the up arrow key once and this formula is displayed:

2S 2X

When you push the up arrow key again this formula is displayed:

3S 28X.

When you push the up arrow key again, 2S is displayed.

The formula that the KC has given you for decreasing stitches evenly across tells you: "2S 2X" means "double up every second stitch a total of 2 times. In other words, hang the first stitch on a needle then hang the second stitch on top of the previous stitch - do this 2 times.

Four stitches are involved. If "I" is a stitch hung on a needle and "\" means a stitch that is hung on top of the previous stitch, then our first four stitches look like: I\ I\ . Four stitches on two needles.

The second part of the formula "3S 28x" simply means to double up every third stitch, a total of 28 times. This part of the decreasing looks like this: II\ II\ II\ II\ and so forth a total of 28 times. In this case each group of three stitches are placed onto two needles. At the very end there will be 2 stitches, each occupying its own needle.

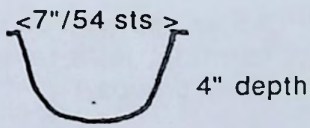
Suppose instead that you wanted to decrease evenly across from 10 stitches to 6 stitches. In this case the decrease formula is: 2S 4X then 2S even. This set of decreases will look like"

I\ I\ I\ I\ II

I do hope that I have explained Mode B to your satisfaction.

- - - - -

The next mode that you should understand is **Mode C**, the mode we use when calculating the shaping of a standard round neckline such as I have drawn here:



4" depth

1. Enter the stitch and row gauge (75 sts, 130 rows = 10").
2. Select mode C.
3. Enter the width of the neckline in stitches - in this case it is 54 stitches
4. Next, enter the depth of the neckline. We want to make ours 4" deep, so enter "4" "cm" "R" and the result of 52 rows is displayed.
5. After a bit of a pause you will get an up arrow. Push the up arrow once and you will see displayed "11.9 Ln cm". The knitting calculator has just calculated that the total length of the front neckline's curve is 11.9". Make a note of this because you will need this later for the calculation of the neck-

band.

6. Now push the up arrow key repeatedly and you will get the following shaping instructions:

8 S *
4 S 2 R 1 X
3 S 2 R 1 X
2 S 2 R 2 X
1 S 2 R 2 X
2 S 2 R 1 X
1 S 2 R 3 X
2 R *
1 S 2 R 2 X
2 R *
1 S 2 R 1 X
2 R *
1 S 2 R 1 X
6 R *
1 S 2 R 1 X
10 R *

As an explanation of the formula, let's take it in small groups.

8 S * means simply to put the center 8 needles in hold position.

4 S 2 R 1 X
3 S 2 R 1 X
2 S 2 R 2 X
1 S 2 R 2 X
2 S 2 R 1 X
1 S 2 R 3 X
2 R *

This entire section of shaping can be done by short rows and wrapping! **4 S 2 R 1 X** means just to knit towards the neck edge and wrap the closest HP needle, then knit to the arm edge again (2 rows knitted); put the next 4 stitches [needles] in hold position. Do this one time.

Take each step as I did the first step, putting the required number of needles in hold every second row. Since there are two rows for each step, by the time you have put the last needle in hold the RC would say 20 if you set it to RC000 before beginning the shaping.

The last bit of that first part of the neckline shaping is **2 R ***, and from the mode H shaping we did in the last installment, you should realize that just means knit 2 rows without shaping.

As soon as the formula gives you rows to knit even (without any shaping) you must then discontinue doing short row shaping. At that point you must begin doing full fashioned decreases.

So, at RC 20 you are instructed to knit 2 rows even. When you do that the RC shows 22. The next instruction says "1 S 2 R 2 X", so you will decrease a stitch at RC 24, then again at RC 26 - that's every 2 rows 2x.

If you continue through the remainder of the neckline shaping as instructed, when you knit the final 10 rows even the RC will show "52". That's great, since the 4" deep neckline worked out to be 52 rows deep.

Do you see how the Knitting Calculator has charted an absolutely perfect neckline for you? All you have to do is to obey its instructions and do the shaping!

The Knitting Calculator can only "tell" you the formula to use for the shaping. You have to know that both sides of the front neckline have to be shaped the same way, and that each side has to be knitted and shaped separately.

If I were knitting this type of neckline, I would probably let all of the HP needles in hold at the one side as I knitted the other side. Then, after both sides of the neckline have been shaped, you will have 22 stitches each side of center 0 on hold position needles - a total of 44 stitches. Presuming that you have already knitted the back of the garment, it is now time to let the KC help you figure out the number of stitches to use for the

Neckband.

Remember when we first entered the width and depth of the neckline that the KC told you 11.9" was the length of the front neckline?

Change to mode A - operation to compute a straight line. Your gauge should be in the KC. If not, enter it again (75 sts, 130 rs = 10"). Set it on mode A and enter:

"11.9" "cm" "S"

and the display will read "89 S". To maintain an even number I would round that up to 90 stitches. This means that the total number of stitches needed for the front part of the neckband is 90 stitches. You already have 44 stitches on the machine for the center part of the front neckband. You will have to subtract 44 stitches already on the machine from 90 stitches needed to be on. The answer is 46 stitches. These have to be divided in two equal parts - one part for one side of the neckline and the other half for the other side of the neckline (those parts where stitches were decreased full fashioned rather than to be short rowed). As a result, you must pick up 23 stitches along each side of the front neckline.

Since the neckband should also include the back neckline (rather than to knit a two-part band) you will have to pick up the back neckline stitches at one side of the front neckline stitches. From our original information we know that there are 54 stitches in the back neckline.

The KC does not tell you how many rows to knit for the neckband, nor what style of neckband or collar to knit. It simply gives you intelligent information about the number of stitches needed. You must use your own ingenuity to design the collar of your choice!

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